

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 01163 031740Z

64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 SAM-01 AID-05 IGA-01 EB-07 OMB-01 OPIC-03

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R 031715Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1924

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PO

SUBJ: COVERAGE OF AID ANNOUNCEMENT

REF: LISBON 1148

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, TWO MAJOR MORNING LISBON DAILIES GAVE FRONT-PAGE HEADLINED COVERAGE TO AID ANNOUNCEMENT. AFTERNOON PAPERS GAVE SUBJECT LESS PROMINENT TREATMENT. DIARIO POPULAR AND REPUBLICA HAD NO MENTION OF AID AGREEMENT, WHILE A CAPITAL GAVE IT SMALL ONE-COLUMN TREATMENT ON PAGE FIVE. DIAIRO DE LISBOA GAVE SIMILAR SPACE BUT LARGER THREE COLUMN HEADLINE ON ITS REAR PAGE.

2. MORE SURPRISING WAS THE PROMINENT TREATMENT GIVEN BY FAR-LEFT WEEKLY "SEMPRE FIXE," WHICH GAVE ANNOUNCEMENT ITS SIX-COLUMN PRINCIPAL HEADLINE--"AMERICAN GOOD WILL--DOLLARS AND EXPERTS ARRIVE" AND EXTENSIVE TREATMENT TO PORTUGUESE COMMUNIQUE.

3. EVENING TV NEWS PROGRAM "TELEJOURNAL" OF FEBRUARY 28 COVERED ANNOUNCEMENT AS ITS FIFTH STORY. IN STRAIGHT-FORWARD REPORT, AGREEMENT WAS DESCRIBED, AND FOLLOWED BY INTER-

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VIEW WITH FINANCE MINISTER SILVA LOPES, WHO STRESSED THAT THIS

WAS FIRST GESTURE OF HELP RECEIVED BY PORTUGAL SINCE THE
REVOLUTION. AT END CAME FAIRLY LONG INTERVIEW WITH
AMBASSADOR, WHO SAID AGREEMENT IS TOKEN OF U.S. CONFIDENCE
IN PORTUGAL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON01163
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750074-0588
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750389/aaaadche.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LISBON 1148
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COVERAGE OF AID ANNOUNCEMENT
TAGS: EAID, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006